

DEC 05 2003

AF/3761

PATENT #14
177079-00058



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Phyllis Leithem et al.
Serial No. : 09/863,585
Filed : May 16, 2001
For : ABSORBENT PRODUCTS AND METHODS OF THEIR
PREPARATION THEREOF
Group Art Unit : 3761
Examiner : D.W. Ruhl.

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated below, addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 4, 2003.

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Date: December 4, 2003

Name: TERESA PASTOR

Signature: *Teresa Pastor*

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TRANSMITTAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION

In the Final Office Action in the above-identified application mailed on June 16, 2003, from which a Notice of Appeal was filed on Monday, November 17, 2003, the Examiner found the Declaration of record to be defective because two of the inventors had failed to identify their citizenship therein. Applicant has attempted to secure a new Declaration with complete citizenship statements executed by all of the inventors, but so far has been unable to do so because several of the inventors, including Charles A. Kremers, have moved from their last known address.

Since all of the Inventors did join in the application by signing a Declaration filed in parent application U.S. Appl. No. 08/370,571 (a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A), it is submitted that the deficiencies in the original Declaration can be cured with a Supplemental

Declaration respect to inventors Kremers and Harrell under 37 C.F.R. § 1.67(a)(2). Since Kremers and Harrell also appointed the undersigned as their attorney for all business in the U.S.P.T.O. in connection with U.S. Appl. No. 08/370,571 and any continuation applications thereof, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.64(b), the Supplemental Oath has been executed on behalf of Charles A. Kremers and W. Paul Harrell by the undersigned, as their duly appointed attorney.

In making this Supplemental Oath, the undersigned has relied upon the stated citizenship of inventors Kremers and Harrell in the Declaration filed in the ultimate parent to this application, namely U.S. Pat. Appl. No. 08/184,377, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit B. On information and belief, inventors Kremers and Harrell did not change their citizenship in the time between their execution of the Declaration for U.S. Appl. No. 08/184,377 in January and February 1994 and their execution of the Declaration for U.S. Appl. No. 08/370,571 in January 1995.

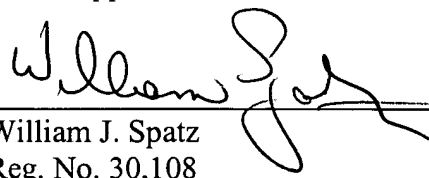
It should be noted that when this application was published (Pub. No. US 2002/0096276 A1) on July 25, 2002, inventors Kremers and Harrell were identified therein as U.S. citizens.

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the attached Supplemental Declaration satisfies the Examiner's requirement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deemed necessary for the entry of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

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